

Calvert
Papers.

I have not amongst the Offices to be applied as above, named either the County Clerks, or the Attorney Generals Deputys in the several Counties; the only reason why is because I am informed the former, the people will not trust with a Seat there, altho' as soon as they get their Commissions (tho' during pleasure) they generally claim to hold them during good behaviour, & so consider themselves as independant of the Government & some of them as well as their whole familys & Relations, act accordingly (Q^{re} if fast friends to the Government) and as to the Attorney Generals Deputys as they must be Lawyers (of whom neither are the people in General very fond) it is therefore for the Interest of his Lord^p & the Government that they be appointed out of the most able of those who will accept those Commissions, without expecting any Influence from them over any part of the proceedings of the Lower House, tho' those Commissions (inconsiderable as I am informed they now are) have always the good Effect of fixing those who do accept them, however waivering before, fast friends to the Government (To this plan of Gratuity of Honourable purpose may be added the Benefices to their Relations & Sons; Besides other offices not mentioned) In short no Man who behaves well in that House for three years should at the End of that time go unrewarded, as far as the foregoing Commissions would be acceptable; nor should they ever be granted from private Interest, friendship, or any other private motive whatever, so long as there are well-deservers of that House to take them; for the Assemblys continuing for three years & those Commissions continuing likewise for three years, will serve as a constant Rotation & Succession to each other. The extreame Length of this Letter hitherto had almost discouraged Me from proceeding, least your patience should be tired out; But conceiving the Subject matter to be important both to his Lordship & the Province in General, an assurance that your regard for both will prompt you to give a favourable hearing to whatever is advanced for those purposes, induces Me to proceed.

You cannot but have observed, the Egregious Weakness, as well as the Extravagant Byass (Instances of both which might be mentioned in other cases than here) against his Lordships rights, of the Provincial Bench, the Supreme Original Court of Law in this Province; tho' were I acquainted with the persons of whom it is composed, (I mean of such who can & do attend) I might cease to wonder at their weakness, tho' not be able to account for their preposterous Byass. The Members are, 3 County clerks (Holding their Commissions as they imagine during good behaviour in those offices & so independant of the Government & Courting popularity) one of